

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 27, 57 and 87 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof and amend the claims as follows.

1(Currently amended). A computer-implemented method for creating a content object, being one of a book, a document, a collection of images, a collection of musical selections, a video and a multimedia object, from a collection of content stored in a digital library having a library server and one or more object servers, wherein the content object includes a user defined hierarchical structure including at least one hierarchical tier and at least one subordinate tier, the method comprising:

presenting a plurality of selectable objects from the digital library to a user for inclusion in the content object, each selectable object representing a subset of the collection of content and including a title;

enabling selection by a user of one or more of said selectable objects and specification by said user of a location for said selected objects within said hierarchical structure including at least one hierarchical tier and at least one subordinate tier;

creating the content object including a hierarchical compilation of the content represented by each selected object in accordance with said specified location for said selected objects by said user;

enabling ~~specification~~ entry of a title by said user ~~of a title for at least one of said hierarchical tier and said subordinate tier~~ the specified location within said hierarchical structure for a corresponding selected object and assigning said entered title to that specified location, wherein said entered and assigned title is different than said included title of the corresponding

selected object to provide the corresponding selected object with a title within said content object

different than said included title of a ~~corresponding selected object~~;

storing said content object in said one or more object servers; and

storing information specifying the content object and attribute information concerning the content object in the library server.

2(Canceled).

3(Previously presented). The method of claim 1, wherein subsets of content comprise one of a chapter and a section of a text document.

4(Previously presented). The method of claim 1, wherein each selectable object is associated with a cost, and further comprising the step of calculating a cost for the created content object based upon the costs of the selected objects.

5(Previously presented). The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of determining a content count for the content object and determining a cost for the content object based upon the content count.

6(Original). The method of claim 1, wherein the collection of content comprises hierarchically related data.

7(Original). The method of claim 6, wherein the collection of content comprises text documents and the subset of content associated with each selectable object comprises at least one of a chapter and a section.

8(Previously presented). The method of claim 1, further comprising displaying to the user the selected objects such that the user may rearrange the order of the selected objects as desired through a user interface.

9(Previously presented). The method of claim 1, wherein the step of creating the content object further comprises the steps of:

defining a maximum amount of allowable content per volume of content;
creating a plurality of volumes of content from the selected content based upon the defined maximum.

10(Original). The method of claim 9, further comprising displaying to the user the selected objects contained in each volume such that the user may selectably move an object from a first to a second of the volumes.

11(Original). The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
receiving content input by a user, and
creating a selectable object from the content.

12(Previously presented). The method of claim 1, wherein the user may concurrently create a plurality of content objects.

13(Previously presented). The method of claim 1, further comprising the step, after creation of the content object, of presenting the content object to a user for modification.

14(Previously presented). The method of claim 13, further comprising the step of creating a copy of the content object, applying changes input by a user to the copy, and creating a new content object therefrom.

15(Previously presented). The method of claim 13, wherein the user may select an object for removal from the content object.

16(Previously presented). The method of claim 1, wherein the user may select to clear the content object.

17(Previously presented). The method of claim 1, wherein the user may select to undo an operation affecting the content object.

18(Previously presented). The method of claim 1, further comprising the step, after creation of the content object, of submitting the content object to an approval process.

19(Previously presented). The method of claim 18, wherein the approval process comprises one of approving the content object for publication, rejecting the content object, and receiving editorial comments as input from a second user, and providing the content object and editorial comments to the creating user.

20(Original). The method of claim 1, wherein the presenting step further comprises the step of presenting all of the content comprising the collection of content to the user as a plurality of selectable objects.

21(Original). The method of claim 1, wherein the presenting step further comprises the step of presenting less than all of the content comprising the collection of content to the user as a plurality of selectable objects.

22(Currently amended). The method of claim 21, further comprising the step of partitioning the collection of content into a plurality of categories, and presenting all selectable objects belonging to a category to a user.

23(Original). The method of claim 1, wherein the presenting step further comprises the steps of:

receiving search criteria input by the user,

determining which of the subsets of the collection of content satisfy the search criteria,
and

presenting to the user a plurality of selectable objects corresponding to the subsets of
content satisfying the search criteria.

24(Previously presented). The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of the subsets of
content is associated with one or more prerequisite subsets of content, further comprising the
step, upon selection by the user of a selectable object associated with the at least one subset, also
including the associated prerequisite subsets of content in the created content object.

25(Original). The method of claim 1, wherein a selectable object further comprises one
of a container and a content entity.

26(Previously presented). The method of claim 25, further comprising the step of, in
response to selection of the container to add to the content object, adding the selected container
and any containers or content entities it contains to the content object.

27(Canceled).

28(Original). The method of claim 25, wherein containers are at least one of a book, a volume, and a chapter.

29(Original). The method of claim 25, wherein the collection of content further comprises at least one of books, images, albums and videos.

30(Canceled).

31(Currently amended). A program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps for creating a content object, being one of a book, a document, a collection of images, a collection of musical selections, a video and a multimedia object, from a collection of content stored in a digital library having a library server and one or more object servers, wherein the content object includes a user defined hierarchical structure including at least one hierarchical tier and at least one subordinate tier, the method comprising:

presenting a plurality of selectable objects from the digital library to a user for inclusion in the content object, each selectable object representing a subset of the collection of content and including a title;

enabling selection by a user of one or more of said selectable objects and specification by said user of a location for said selected objects within said hierarchical structure including at least one hierarchical tier and at least one subordinate tier;

creating the content object including a hierarchical compilation of the content represented by each selected object in accordance with said specified location for said selected objects by said user;

enabling ~~specification~~ entry of a title by said user ~~of a title for at least one of said hierarchical tier and said subordinate tier~~ the specified location within said hierarchical structure for a corresponding selected object and assigning said entered title to that specified location, wherein said entered and assigned title is different than said included title of the corresponding selected object to provide the corresponding selected object with a title within said content object different than said included title of a corresponding selected object;

storing said content object in said one or more object servers; and

storing information specifying the content object and attribute information concerning the content object in the library server.

32(Canceled).

33(Previously presented). The program storage device of claim 31, wherein subsets of content comprise one of a chapter and a section of a book or document.

34(Previously presented). The program storage device of claim 31, wherein each selectable object is associated with a cost, and said method further comprises the step of calculating a cost for the created content object based upon the costs of the selected objects.

35(Previously presented). The program storage device of claim 31, wherein said method further comprises the steps of determining a content count for the content object and determining a cost for the content object based upon the content count.

36(Previously presented). The program storage device of claim 31, wherein the collection of content comprises hierarchically related data.

37(Previously presented). The program storage device of claim 36, wherein the collection of content comprises text documents and the subset of content associated with each selectable object comprises at least one of a chapter and a section.

38(Previously presented). The program storage device of claim 31, wherein said method further comprises displaying to the user the selected objects such that the user may rearrange the order of the selected objects as desired through a user interface.

39(Previously presented). The program storage device of claim 31, wherein the step of creating the content object further comprises the steps of:

defining a maximum amount of allowable content per volume of content;

creating a plurality of volumes of content from the selected content based upon the defined maximum.

40(Previously presented). The program storage device of claim 39, wherein said method further comprises displaying to the user the selected objects contained in each volume such that the user may selectably move an object from a first to a second of the volumes.

41(Previously presented). The program storage device of claim 31, wherein said method further comprises the steps of:

receiving content input by a user, and
creating a selectable object from the content.

42(Previously presented). The program storage device of claim 31, wherein the user may concurrently create a plurality of content objects.

43(Previously presented). The program storage device of claim 31, wherein said method further comprises the step, after creation of the content object, of presenting the content object to a user for modification.

44(Previously presented). The program storage device of claim 43, wherein said method further comprises the step of creating a copy of the content object, applying changes input by a user to the copy, and creating a new content object therefrom.

45(Previously presented). The program storage device of claim 43, wherein the user may select an object for removal from the content object.

46(Previously presented). The program storage device of claim 31, wherein the user may select to clear the content object.

47(Previously presented). The program storage device of claim 31, wherein the user may select to undo an operation affecting the content object.

48(Previously presented). The program storage device of claim 31, wherein the method further comprises the step, after creation of the content object, of submitting the content object to an approval process.

49(Previously presented). The program storage device of claim 48, wherein the approval process comprises one of approving the content object for publication, rejecting the content object, and receiving editorial comments as input from a second user, and providing the content object and editorial comments to the creating user.

50(Previously presented). The program storage device of claim 31, wherein the presenting step further comprises the step of presenting all of the content comprising the collection of content to the user as a plurality of selectable objects.

51(Previously presented). The program storage device of claim 31, wherein the presenting step further comprises the step of presenting less than all of the content comprising the collection of content to the user as a plurality of selectable objects.

52(Previously presented). The program storage device of claim 51, wherein the method further comprises the step of partitioning the collection of content into a plurality of categories, and presenting all selectable objects belonging to a category to a user.

53(Previously presented). The program storage device of claim 31, wherein the presenting step further comprises the steps of:

receiving search criteria input by the user,
determining which of the subsets of the collection of content satisfy the search criteria,
and
presenting to the user a plurality of selectable objects corresponding to the subsets of content satisfying the search criteria.

54(Previously presented). The program storage device of claim 31, wherein at least one of the subsets of content is associated with one or more prerequisite subsets of content, wherein the method further comprises the step, upon selection by the user of a selectable object associated with the at least one subset, also including the associated prerequisite subsets of content in the created content object.

55(Previously presented). The program storage device of claim 31, wherein a selectable object further comprises one of a container and a content entity.

56(Previously presented). The program storage device of claim 55, wherein the method further comprises the step of, in response to selection of the container to add to the content object, adding the selected container and any containers or content entities it contains to the content object.

57(Canceled).

58(Previously presented). The program storage device of claim 55, wherein containers are at least one of a book, a volume, and a chapter.

59(Previously presented). The program storage device of claim 55, wherein the collection of content further comprises at least one of books, images, albums and videos.

60(Canceled).

61(Currently amended). A system for creating a content object, being one of a book, a document, a collection of images, a collection of musical selections, a video and a multimedia object, from a collection of content stored in a digital library having a library server and one or

more object servers, wherein the content object includes a user defined hierarchical structure including at least one hierarchical tier and at least one subordinate tier, the system comprising:

a user interface for presenting a plurality of selectable objects from the digital library to a user for inclusion in the content object, each selectable object representing a subset of the collection of content and including a title;

means for enabling selection by a user of one or more of said selectable objects and specification by said user of a location for said selected objects within said hierarchical structure including at least one hierarchical tier and at least one subordinate tier;

means for creating the content object including a hierarchical compilation of the content represented by each selected object in accordance with said specified location for said selected objects by said user;

means for enabling specification entry of a title by said user of a title for at least one of said hierarchical tier and said subordinate tier the specified location within said hierarchical structure for a corresponding selected object and assigning said entered title to that specified location, wherein said entered and assigned title is different than said included title of the corresponding selected object to provide the corresponding selected object with a title within said content object different than said included title of a corresponding selected object;

means for storing said content object in said one or more object servers; and

means for storing information specifying the content object and attribute information concerning the content object in the library server.

62(Canceled).

63(Previously presented). The system of claim 61, wherein subsets of content comprise one of a chapter and a section of a book or text document.

64(Previously presented). The system of claim 61, wherein each selectable object is associated with a cost, and further comprising means for determining a cost for the created content object based upon the costs of the selected objects.

65(Previously presented). The system of claim 61, further comprising means for determining a content count for the content object and means for determining a cost for the content object based upon the content count.

66(Original). The system of claim 61, wherein the collection of content comprises hierarchically related data.

67(Original). The system of claim 66, wherein the collection of content comprises text documents and the subset of content associated with each selectable object comprises at least one of a chapter and a section.

68(Previously presented). The system of claim 61, further comprising means for displaying to the user the selected objects such that the user may rearrange the order of the selected objects as desired through a user interface.

69(Previously presented). The system of claim 61, wherein the means for creating the content object further comprises:

means for defining a maximum amount of allowable content per volume of content;

means for creating a plurality of volumes of content from the selected content based upon the defined maximum.

70(Original). The system of claim 69, further comprising means for displaying to the user the selected objects contained in each volume such that the user may selectably move an object from a first to a second of the volumes.

71(Previously presented). The system of claim 61, further comprising:

means for receiving content input by a user, and

means for creating a selectable object from the content.

72(Previously presented). The system of claim 61, wherein the user may concurrently create a plurality of content objects.

73(Previously presented). The system of claim 61, wherein the user interface comprises means for presenting the created content object to a user for modification.

74(Previously presented). The system of claim 73, further comprising means for creating a copy of the content object, means for applying changes input by a user to the copy, and means for creating a new content object therefrom.

75(Previously presented). The system of claim 73, further comprising means for selecting an object for removal from the content object.

76(Previously presented). The system of claim 61, further comprising means for clearing the content object.

77(Previously presented). The system of claim 61, further comprising means for undoing an operation affecting the content object.

78(Previously presented). The system of claim 61, further comprising means for submitting the content object to an approval process.

79(Previously presented). The system of claim 78, further comprising means for approving the content object for publication, means for rejecting the content object, means for

receiving editorial comments as input from a second user, and means for providing the content object and editorial comments to the creating user.

80(Original). The system of claim 61, further comprising means for presenting all of the content comprising the collection of content to the user as a plurality of selectable objects.

81(Original). The system of claim 61, further comprising means for presenting less than all of the content comprising the collection of content to the user as a plurality of selectable objects.

82(Currently amended). The system of claim 81, further comprising means for partitioning the collection of content into a plurality of categories, and means for presenting all selectable objects belonging to a category to a user.

83(Previously presented). The system of claim 61, further comprising:
means for receiving search criteria input by the user,
means for determining which of the subsets of the collection of content satisfy the search criteria, and

means for presenting to the user a plurality of selectable objects corresponding to the subsets of content satisfying the search criteria.

84(Previously presented). The system of claim 61, wherein at least one of the subsets of content is associated with one or more prerequisite subsets of content, further comprising means for determining if a selected object has associated prerequisite material, and means for adding the subset of content associated with the selected object and its prerequisite subsets to the created content object.

85(Original). The system of claim 61, wherein a selectable object further comprises one of a container and a content entity.

86(Previously presented). The system of claim 85, further comprising means for enabling a user to select a container to add to the content object, and means for adding the selected container and any containers or content entities it contains to the content object.

87(Canceled).

88(Original). The system of claim 85, wherein containers are at least one of a book, a volume, and a chapter.

89(Original). The system of claim 85, wherein the collection of content further comprises at least one of books, images, albums and videos.

90(Canceled).

91(Previously presented). The method of claim 1, wherein the content object is created automatically in response to the user selecting and specifying said location for said one or more of said objects.

92(Previously presented). The method of claim 1, wherein the content object is created by recording in a computer-readable structure defining the content object, for each selected object, a reference to the content entity associated with the selected object.

93(Previously presented). The method of claim 92, wherein the computer-readable structure defining the content object is a custom content outline (CCO) containing the references that correspond to the selected objects, and wherein said references are identifiers of the content entities associated with the selected objects.

94(Previously presented). The program storage device of claim 31, wherein the content object is created automatically in response to the user selecting and specifying said location for said one or more of said objects.

95(Previously presented). The program storage device of claim 31, wherein the content object is created by recording in a computer-readable structure defining the content object, for each selected object, a reference to the content entity associated with the selected object.

96(Previously presented). The program storage device of claim 95, wherein the computer-readable structure defining the content object is a custom content outline (CCO) containing the references that correspond to the selected objects, and wherein said references are identifiers of the content entities associated with the selected objects.

97(Previously presented). The system of claim 61, wherein the content object is created automatically in response to the user selecting and specifying said location for said one or more of said objects.

98(Previously presented). The system of claim 61, wherein the content object is created by recording in a computer-readable structure defining the content object, for each selected object, a reference to the content entity associated with the selected object.

99(Previously presented). The system of claim 98, wherein the computer-readable structure defining the content object is a custom content outline (CCO) containing the references that correspond to the selected objects, and wherein said references are identifiers of the content entities associated with the selected objects.